From: Shahla Farahnak

To: rubenm@att.net;

CC: Billington, Tracie; Scott Couch;

Subject: Re: Prop 50 additional funding comments

Date: Thursday, February 08, 2007 2:38:36 PM

Attachments:

Thank you for your comments; they will be taken into consideration.

Shahla Dargahi Farahnak, P.E. State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

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>>> Ruben Moreno <rubenm@att.net> 2/8/2007 11:50:21 AM >>> Shala: Please consider the following as comments supporting the proposal of funding additional projects under the First Round, Step 2 of the Prop 50 IRWM Implementation Grant Program.

As we understand, the state has previously followed a similar practice of providing additional funding and thus including additional projects in fundable lists. This practice underscores the understanding and recognizes the effort that has taken place by all applicants at that level. There was considerable time, effort and local monies expended in getting to the Step 2 process. The various partners made continual and furthered their commitment into this process as more and more local monies and time were spent in this process. Along with this effort came the additional momentum that was gained to the point where many if not all of the proposed projects are in a "state of readiness" to proceed. This, we believe, is consistent with the legislative intent of getting the funds awarded and getting projects built and improvements on the ground. This, we consider to be efficient use of public funds. The merits of funding additional projects is further justified by the fact that additional monies will become available rights behind these remaining Prop 50 funds. As we understood, staff has held public

meetings seeking input on how to proceed expeditiously with these new monies (Prop 84 and 1E). Also, there will be the knowledge gained by having these advanced Step 2 projects implemented and thus improving on the guidelines and implementation of future projects. It is not about funding certain regions at the expense of others. They are all worthy. It is about moving the funds quickly to those that are ready, understanding that there are future monies for those coming right behind. We thank you for consideration and inclusion of these comments in the Boards agenda packet.

Sincerely,

Ruben Moreno, P.E.,J.D. City of Soledad Consultant